CLAIMS

1.   A network scanner for reading an original document and forwarding read data
to a designated terminal connected to a network, comprising:

an operating panel including input means and display means; and

5   control means for acquiring information on a processing condition by
controlling the operating panel so as to allow an operator to carry out a prescribed input
operation via the operating panel, and executing the processes of reading an original
document, generating transmission data and forwarding the transmission data to a
designated terminal according to the acquired processing condition.

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2.   A network scanner according to claim 1, further comprising transmission data
composing means that can generate transmission data in any one of a plurality of file
formats, the control means allowing an operator to designate one of the file formats for
the transmission data as a processing condition from the operating panel.

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3.   A network scanner according to claim 2, wherein the control means displays an
icon indicating a selected one of the file formats on the display means.

4.   A network scanner according to claim 1, wherein the control means allows an
20   operator to select a file name for the transmission data from the operating panel as a
processing condition.

5.   A network scanner according to claim 4, wherein the input means of the
operating panel comprises keys that allow entry of characters, and the control means
25   allows an operator to enter a file name consisting of a string of characters by operating

the keys.

6.   A network scanner according to claim 5, wherein the control means allows an operator to select one of a standard file name stored in a memory unit and an arbitrary file name that can be entered from the input means.

7.   A network scanner according to claim 5, wherein the operating panel includes a touch panel that serves as both the input means and display means, and the control means displays a keyboard containing a plurality of keys for entering characters when an entry of a file name is invited on a screen for designating a processing condition.

8.   A network scanner according to claim 1, further comprising a recording unit for printing said read data.

9.   A network scanner for reading an original document and forwarding read data to a designated terminal connected to a network, comprising:

        a reading unit for reading an original document by scanning and generating corresponding image data;

        a transmission data composing unit for processing said image data into transmission data;

        a network control unit for forwarding said transmission data to a plurality of terminals connected to said network;

        an operating panel including a display unit and a plurality of input keys; and

        a control unit for controlling actions of said reading unit, transmission data composing unit, network control unit and operating panel;

wherein said display unit is adapted to list choices of said terminals and image processing conditions while said input keys are adapted to allow selection of said terminals and image processing conditions under control of said control unit.

5   10.   A network scanner according to claim 9, wherein said display unit comprises a touch panel that provides at least one of said input keys.

11.   A network scanner according to claim 9, wherein said image processing conditions include at least one of a member of group consisting of a file name, file

10   format, resolution power, density, original document size, copy size and image processing method for said image data.

12.   A network scanner according to claim 9, wherein said transmission data is transmitted as electronic mail.

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13.   A network scanner according to claim 9, wherein said network scanner is incorporated with a function of a facsimile machine.

14.   A network scanner according to claim 9, further comprising a recording unit

20   for printing said image data.

15.   A network scanner according to claim 14, wherein said network scanner is incorporated with a function of a copier.

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